

Giving Jesus Away to Others Luke 3:1-20

John 1:1-3 – In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. (CSB)

Keys to Ministry:

I. Discover your ministry calling.

Luke 3:2 - God's word came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. (CSB)

Ephesians 2:10 – For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. (CSB)

2 Timothy 2:15 – Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. (NLT)

II. Ministry is about going.

Luke 3:3 - He went into all the vicinity of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, (CSB)

2 Timothy 4:2 – Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; rebuke, correct, and encourage with great patience and teaching. (CSB)

III. Ministry is not about you.

Luke 3:7-9 – ⁷He then said to the crowds who came out to be baptized by him, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Therefore produce fruit consistent with repentance. And don’t start saying to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you that God is able to raise up children for Abraham from these stones. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn’t produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” (CSB)

John 7:16-18 – ¹⁶Jesus answered them, “My teaching isn’t mine but is from the one who sent me. ¹⁷If anyone wants to do his will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am speaking on my own. ¹⁸The one who speaks on his own seeks his own glory; but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is true, and there is no unrighteousness in him. (CSB)

IV. Ministry is to benefit others.

Luke 3:10-14 – ¹⁰“What then should we do?” the crowds were asking him. ¹¹He replied to them, “The one who has two shirts must share with someone who has none, and the one who has food must do the same.” ¹²Tax collectors also came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He told them, “Don’t collect any more than what you have been authorized.” ¹⁴Some soldiers also questioned him, “What should we do?” He said to them, “Don’t take money from anyone by force or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” (CSB)

1 Peter 4:10 – Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God. (CSB)

V. Ministry always points others to Jesus.

Luke 3:15-18 – ¹⁵Now the people were waiting expectantly, and all of them were questioning in their hearts whether John might be the Messiah. ¹⁶John answered them all, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I am is coming. I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing shovel is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with fire that never goes out.” ¹⁸Then, along with many other exhortations, he proclaimed good news to the people. (CSB)

Thought For The Week:

Friends bring **friends** to Jesus.